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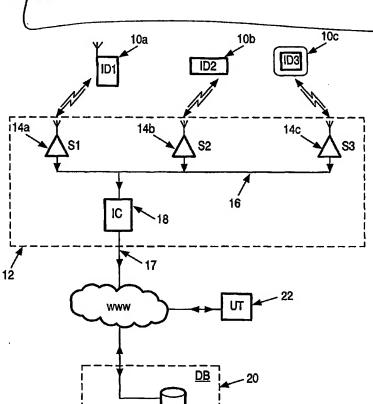
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): KONIN-KLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V. [NL/NL]; Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): SIMONS, Paul,

R. [GB/GB]; c/o Philips Intellectual Property & Standards, Cross Oak Lane, Redhill, Surrey RH1 5HA (GB). GOUGH, Paul, A. [GB/GB]; c/o Philips Intellectual Property & Standards, Cross Oak Lane, Redhill, Surrey RH1 5HA (GB). PENNA, David, E. [GB/GB]; c/o Philips Intellectual Property & Standards, Cross Oak Lane, Redhill, Surrey RH1 5HA (GB).

- (74) Agent: WHITE, Andrew, G.; Philips Intellectual Property & Standards, Cross Oak Lane, Redhill, Surrey RH1 5HA (GB).
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(54) Title: LOCATION TRACKING OF PORTABLE DEVICES IN A WIRELESS NETWORK



(57) Abstract: A method and system for anonymously and opportunistically tracking the location of a portable device in a wireless infrastructure is described. The system comprises an installed infrastructure (12) in for example a shopping mall, the infrastructure having short range radio stations (14a,14b) primarily installed as wireless information access points. Standard communication between a users device (10a) and a station (14a) is according to a short range radio protocol such as ZigBee in which devices are assigned unique identifiers. In an exchange, the identifier is correlated with location, time and date data and uploaded via a backchannel connection (16) to a database (20) which a user may connect with at a later time. The user, knowing his objects identifier, can therefore access the data to determine where his object last interacted with a station.